

elected the gentlewoman from Ohio, Ms. DEBORAH PRYCE as secretary to the Republican Conference.

We have a unified Republican effort here with these new elections to bring about what the American people are expecting of us: to balance the Federal budget for the first time in 27 years, to reduce taxes for middle income American families, and to solve the impending crisis with Medicare.

It is my pleasure today to bring this news to the House. I look forward to working with Members on both sides of the aisle to do what the American people sent us here to do, and that is their agenda.

□ 1130

TAX FAIRNESS FOR WORKING FAMILIES

(Ms. VELÁZQUEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, 2½ years ago the Republicans stood on the steps of the Capitol and signed the Contract With America. Item 5 of the contract was not a bad idea. It called for a \$500-per-child tax credit and promised to provide middle class tax relief. I must ask my Republican colleagues why they broke their promise to working families.

These families work hard, pay taxes, and are entitled to tax relief. The Republicans not only made a promise to them, they signed a contract. Now my colleagues across the aisle are trying to say that item 5 of the Contract With America does not apply to everyone. The American Dream Restoration Act, as they call it, will remain just another broken promise.

The Democrats want to provide tax relief to all working families. It is just that simple. I challenge my Republican colleagues to join us in this effort.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT USING DISHONEST ACCOUNTING

(Mr. SOLOMON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, trying to get the truth from the Clinton administration about who benefits from the tax cut package is about as elusive as getting truth from John Huang about fund-raising illegalities in the last election. In both cases we would have to dig a hole from here to China before seeing any daylight.

The numbers being cited from the other side about tax cuts for the wealthy are hogwash. They are phony and dishonest.

Try to explain imputed rental income to my constituents, I ask my liberal friends on the other side of the aisle. Try to explain about their share of unreported and underreported income that the Treasury Department is as-

signing to all taxpayers, lumping honest Americans who play by the rules with tax cheats.

Try to explain the Wall Street paper profits that the Treasury Department is using to score the plan, whether or not we realize a capital gain or whether or not we even have any stock at all.

Try to defend the scoring that assumes that all the changes are put in effect immediately, even if they know full well that many of them are phased in over many years.

What are we trying to do to the American taxpayers?

REPUBLICAN TAX PLAN FAVORS THE RICH

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, Democrats have been saying for some time that the Republican tax plan favors the rich at the expense of working Americans. Republicans have tried over and over again to deny the truth, but the media and the American people are catching on.

I want to make reference to sections in an editorial in today's Washington Post entitled "Tax Trash." It says the Republicans have written a tax bill tilted heavily toward the better off. The Democrats, led by the President, have rightly called them on it.

The Republicans, in turn, have adopted a new technique. Rather than argue, as they may have done in the past, about the virtues of the bill, they engage in distortion. The people who wrote this bill are not defending its distributional consequences, they are denying them.

The plain facts are that the bill, over time, would not just mainly benefit the better off but would cost the Government revenues it cannot afford. The bill is certainly written in such a way as to make the revenue loss look small at first and then it soars.

It is not just the Treasury Department that says so. The Congressional Research Service and the vast majority of other analysts are saying the same thing.

Mr. Speaker, we should listen to the Washington Post because it says it all about what the other side is doing.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT'S USE OF FAMILY ECONOMIC INCOME IS A FRAUD

(Mrs. KELLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, the Treasury Department's use of family economic income is bizarre, unusual, ill-conceived, unconventional, unorthodox, irregular, deceptive, misleading, dishonest, aberrant, divorced from reality, fanciful, factually challenged, preposterous, outrageous, inaccurate,

unsupported by common sense, unconscionable, unsubstantiated, brilliantly calculated to distort the truth about the Republican tax plan and, alas, oh so typical of this administration.

In short, the Treasury Department's use of family economic income is a fraud.

Mr. Speaker, what I am hearing from the other side this morning about tax cuts for the wealthy is an insult to the middle class constituents that I represent.

Can we just imagine my going back to my district and scornfully attacking middle class families as "the rich," as somehow morally deficient for thinking they know better how to spend their own money than the politicians in Washington?

I have gotten used to listening to the complete incapacity to understand elementary economics on the other side, but today marks a new low.

A portrait of George Washington hangs behind us. I wonder what he would think about family economic income.

REPUBLICANS DECISION TO INVESTIGATE LABOR DEPARTMENT IS ABUSE OF SLUSH FUND MONEYS

(Ms. KILPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, well, here we go again. Last week, in the Committee on House Oversight, of which I am a member, with less than a 24-hour notice, which is an abuse of the rules, I find out when I walk in that the House Republicans had decided to spend \$1.4 million to investigate the Labor Department, America's hard-working men and women and how they work for their companies.

There has been over \$10 million spent this year on investigations by Republicans. Unfortunately, these same leaders in our Congress have cut Medicaid, Medicare, nutrition services, and we can go on and on.

Mr. Speaker, I am a Member of this Congress because I want to work for good jobs and opportunity for young people. I want to stop the witch hunts. And when we can use an abusive slush fund, set aside for just that, to investigate, to the tune just this Congress in this 6 months \$10 million, I think the people ought to be outraged.

Let us get to the work of the people.

CONGRESS SHOULD WORK TOGETHER TO HELP WORKING FAMILIES MAKE ENDS MEET

(Mr. BLUNT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, we are here today as part of an effort to really help working families. We need to work together. There are people on both